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TITLE : PRODUCTION OF GLASS

ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To avoid cracking and deforming in a sintering step and enable vitrification in high yield, by previously subjecting a dried gel to dehydration treatment at a low temperature in a chlorine based gas atmosphere and sintering the gel in producing glass by a sol-gel method.

CONSTITUTION: Glass is produced by a sol-gel method. In the process, a dried gel is subjected to dehydration treatment at a low temperature in a chlorine based gas atmosphere, then thermally sintered and vitrified. OCl_4 or SOCl_2 can be used as the chlorine based gas in addition to chlorine gas. The dehydration treatment at the low temperature is preferably carried out under condition of a temperature within the range of ordinary temperature $\sim 100^\circ\text{C}$ for ≥ 1 hr treating time.

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